

Amend claim 7 as follows:

7. (amended) A composition according to claim 1, wherein the carrier particles contain from 0.1 to 25 weight percent of the bio/mucoadhesion promoting agent based on the total composition.

Amend claim 9 as follows:

9. (amended) A composition according to claim 8, wherein the bio/mucoadhesion promoting agent is selected from the group consisting of cellulose derivatives and comprising hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose, hydroxyethyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose, sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, methyl cellulose, ethyl hydroxyethyl cellulose, carboxymethyl cellulose, and modified cellulose gum; crosscaramellose; modified starch; acrylic polymers comprising carbomer and its derivatives; polyethylene oxide; chitosan; gelatin; sodium alginate; pectin; scleroglucan; xanthan gum; guar gum; poly-co-(methyl vinyl ether-maleic anhydride); and mixtures thereof.

Amend claim 11 as follows:

11. (amended) A composition according to claim 10, wherein the surfactant is present in an amount from 0.5 to 5 weight percent of the composition.

Amend claim 18 as follows:

18. (amended) A method for the treatment of acute pain, comprising administering to an individual in need thereof, an effective amount of fentanyl or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof in microparticle form for the preparation of an essentially water-free pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of acute pain, wherein microparticles are adhered to surfaces of carrier particles which are substantially larger than said microparticles and are essentially water-soluble, and a bioadhesion and/or mucoadhesion promoting agent is mainly adhered to the surfaces of said carrier particles.

Charge the fee of \$110 for the terminal disclaimer filed herewith to deposit account No. 25-0120.

REMARKS

This application has been amended in a manner that is believed to place it in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action.

In the outstanding Official Action, claim 18 was rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Claim 18 was also rejected under 35 USC 101 for allegedly reciting a "use" without setting forth steps involved in a process. In light of the present amendment, it is believed that these rejections have been obviated.